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PATENT  
HP 3000519 US  
1509-194

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: SCHWENK et al. Conf.: 8322  
Serial No.: 09/897,416 Art Unit: 2134  
Filed: July 3, 2001 Examiner: J. Lipman  
For: TAMPER-EVIDENT/TAMPER-RESISTANT ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 28, 2005

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2005, requiring Applicants to elect one of the following groups of claims for initial prosecution on the merits:

**Group I**, claims 1-22 and 48, drawn to the tamper-resistant or evident electronic module;

**Group II**, claims 23-35, drawn to a tamper-resistant or evident sheet;

**Group III**, claim 36, drawn to a tamper-resistant or evident sheet with electronically monitorable layers;

**Group IV**; claims 37-41, drawn to a tamper-resistant or evident sheet used to cover an electronic component, able to detect piercing;

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Group V, claims 42-47, drawn to a method of manufacturing a tamper-resistant or evident module;

Group VI, claim 49, drawn to a method of providing a trusted output; or

Group VII, claim 50, drawn to a method of time-stamping a document.

Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group I, claims 1-22 and 48, drawn to the tamper-resistant or evident electronic module, for initial prosecution on the merits.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that searching and examining the entire application can be made without serious burden. MPEP 803 requires Examiners to examine such applications on the merits, even if they include claims to separate or distinct inventions.

Applicants further traverse the restriction requirement with respect to Groups VI and VII on the grounds that the inventions of Groups VI and VII are not patentably distinct because the time-stamping method of claim 50 is a specific method of providing the trusted date output of claim 49.

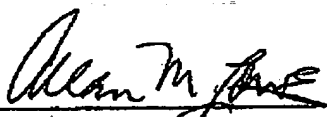
Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is proper, and examination of at least claims 1-22 and 48 on the merits is in order.

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To the extent necessary during prosecution of this application, Applicants hereby request any extension of time not otherwise requested and hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any required fees not otherwise paid, including application processing, extension, and extra claims fees, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary SCHWENK et al.

By:

  
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